

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05
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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5007

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 07064

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, PARM, MNUC
SUBJECT: PUBLIC STATEMENT ON ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST

REF: USNATO 7061

1. AS YOU WILL HAVE SEEN IN OUR REPORT ON THE JULY 20
PERMREP'S LUNCH (REFTEL), MY COLLEAGUES ON THE COUNCIL ARE
FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARDS THE ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD.
ALMOST TO A MAN, HOWEVER, THEY ARE TROUBLED BY THE DEBATE
IN THEIR CAPITALS WHICH HAS SURROUNDED THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCE-
MENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF THE WEAPON. THEY
RECOMMEND THAT ANOTHER EFFORT BE MADE TO PLACE THE WARHEAD
IN ITS PROPER PERSPECTIVE AND BELIEVE A PUBLIC STATEMENT
BY THE US CLEARLY OUTLINING THE ELEMENTS WHICH MAKE THE
WARHEAD'S DEVELOPMENT POTENTIALLY ATTRACTIVE WOULD BE OF
USE WITH THEIR PUBLICS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS, MANY OF WHOM
HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY EARLY STATEMENTS AND PRESS TREAT-
MENT WHICH HAVE DISTORTED FACTS ON THE WEAPON OR STRESSED
ITS NEGATIVE ASPECTS.

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2. I AGREE WITH THEIR RECOMMENDATION AND BELIEVE IT WOULD
BE HELPFUL IF SUCH A PUBLIC STATEMENT COULD BE MADE AT A
LEVEL IN WASHINGTON SUFFICIENT TO GUARANTEE FULL MEDIA
COVERAGE. YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER URGING SECRETARY VANCE
OR SECRETARY BROWN TO MAKE SUCH A STATEMENT AT AN EARLY
DATE. I AM CONFIDENT IT WOULD HAVE A SALUTARY EFFECT ON

OUR ALLIES. BENNETT

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Message Attributes

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